

REMARKS

The set of claims has been amended to further clarify the subject matter for which protection is sought and to eliminate multiple dependencies and reference numerals therefrom. None of the claims has been narrowed by this amendment. A new abstract has also been inserted.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael L. Kenaga
Reg. No. 34,639

PIPER RUDNICK LLP
P.O. Box 64807
Chicago, Illinois 60664-0807
Phone: 312/368-4000
Customer No.: 28465